## SUMMARY OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF THE STATE BOARD OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION

The 2006 Rules, effective July 1, 2006, contain organizational, editorial, and substantive changes. This summary is intended as a convenient reference and does not represent an exhaustive description of all rules changes. For detailed information regarding a change(s) to a particular rule, please refer to the published version of the rule.

#### **Rule 15**:

Amended section (e) to clarify this section. (p. 3)

Amended section (f) to require a Form WC-1 when filing a "no-liability" stipulation and agreement. (p. 3).

#### **Rule 61:**

Amended (b)(1) to require an insurer or self-insurer to place their SBWC ID number on the Form WC-1 when filing it with the Board. (p. 7). The SBWC ID numbers are located on the Board's web page at www.sbwc.georgia.gov.

In addition, section (b)(1) was amended to state a Form WC-1 may be rejected if it does not include the name and address of the employee, employer, insurer, self-insurer, or group self-insurer, date of injury, the employee's social security number, the insurer's, self-insurer's, or group/self-insurer's SBWC ID number, or if sections B, C, or D are not completed. (p. 8).

Amended (b)(2) to clarify a Form WC-2 must be filed when paying benefits under O.C.G.A. §34-9-261, O.C.G.A. §34-9-262, or O.C.G.A. §34-9-263. (p. 8).

Amended (b)(10)(Form WC-14), (b)(11)(Form 14A), (b)(25)(Form WC-121) (b)(28)(Form WC-200a), (b)(36)(Form WC-240), & (b)(37)(Form WC-240A). (pp. 9-12).

At (b)(26), the sections are renumbered due to the additions of 4 new forms and 2 new sections. (p. 11). The new forms are: The Permit to Write Insurance and corresponding Permit to Write Insurance Update, which are located at (b)(26) & (b)(27), and the Rehabilitation Supplier application and corresponding renewal, which are located at (b)(48) & (b)(49). (pp. 11-14).

## Rule 61 (continued):

New (b)(54) requires that all forms be filed on the most current version. (p. 14). Failure to use the current version may result in rejection by the Board.

New (b)(55) permits service of a form with an ICMS equivalent. (p. 15).

#### Rule 100:

Section (f) concerning confidentiality for mediations was rewritten. (p. 16).

Section (g) was amended regarding attendance at mediations. (p. 16).

Section (h) concerning postponement procedures for mediations was rewritten. (pp. 16-17).

New section (i) was created to strongly discourage misconduct during mediations. (p. 17).

#### **Board Rule 102:**

New sections (A)(2) and (A)(3) were created. (p. 17).

Section (A)(2) was created to follow the Uniform Superior Court's rule concerning Admission Pro Hac Vice. (p. 17).

Section (A)(3) was created to require attorneys to place their Georgia bar number on all filings, and to use the current versions of forms. (p. 17). Failure to use the current version may result in rejection by the Board.

Section (C)(1) was amended to clarify procedures regarding postponements of hearings. (p. 18).

Section (D)(1) was amended to limit motions to 50 pages. (p. 18).

Section (E)(3)(b) was amended to clarify the remedies available under this section. (p. 19).

Section (E)(4) was amended to limit hearing briefs to 30 pages. (pp. 19-20).

Section (E)(7) was created to permit the Board to send Notices of Hearing by electronic mail. (p. 20).

#### **Board Rule 108:**

This rule was amended to require claimant attorneys to include on attorney fee contracts the following information: 1) name, (2) bar number, (3) firm name, (4) address, (5) phone number, (6) fax number, (7) email address, and (8) Board claim number. All contracts shall include the employee's name and address. (p. 23).

Section (b)(8) was created to clarify this rule. (p. 25).

#### **Board Rule 200:**

Section (b)(1) was amended to limit change of physician requests to 50 pages. (p. 29).

#### Board Rule 200.1:

Section (e)(2)(iv) was amended to allow objections to rehab plans to be twenty days. (p. 36).

Section (e)(3) was amended to clarify attendance at rehabilitation conferences. (pp. 36-37).

Section (f)(2)(i) was amended to <u>not</u> require academic transcripts or professional licenses when registering as a rehabilitation supplier. (p. 37).

Section (f)(2)(iii) was amended to strike "Director of Licensure & Quality Assurance" and replace with "Board." (p. 38).

Section (f)(4)(ii) was amended to strike "Director of Licensure & Quality Assurance" and replace with "Board." (p. 39).

## **Board Rule 202:**

Section (a) was amended to clarify this section. (p. 44).

## **Board Rule 203:**

Section (e) was amended to raise the mileage reimbursement rate to 40 cents. (p. 46).

# **Board Rule 221**:

Section (c) was rewritten for clarification. (p. 57).

### **FORM CHANGES**:

The Board has updated the Board's forms in light of our exciting upcoming ICMS paperless system. As such, when the new forms are available, please review each of them. Until approved and published, please continue to use existing forms.